

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 30, 2006. Claims 1 to 5, 7 to 11, 15 to 19, 21 to 15 and 29 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 15 and 29 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 5, 7 to 9, 11, 15 to 19, 21 to 23, 25 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,682,487 (Thomson). Claims 10 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Thomson. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns independently determining an output image size and position of a target image on the basis of different rendering attributes of each of a plurality of objects expressing the target image. The rendering attributes express an output image, which includes a first and a second reference size and a first and a second reference output position of each of the plurality of objects. Then, when an output size of a target image is designated, an output image is generated by generating images for each of plurality of objects expressing the target image on the basis of a ratio of change in output image size between the first and second reference sizes defined by the rendering-attributes of each of the plurality of objects compared to the designated output size, and the generated output image is rendered by determining positions of each of the plurality of objects expressing the target image on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the reference first and second positions defined by the rendering attributes of each of the plurality of objects.

Accordingly, a target image is determined by the first and second reference sizes of each of the plurality of objects expressing the target image, and the output image position of

the target image is determined by the first and second reference positions of each of the plurality of objects expressing the target image.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an image processing apparatus capable of variable magnification processing of output information. The apparatus includes holding means for holding output images in a first size and output positions thereof, and holding output images in a second size and output positions thereof, wherein each of the output images is expressed by a plurality of objects, and each of the objects is assigned rendering attributes corresponding to a size and output positions. The apparatus further includes selection means for selecting a desired image from the output images held by the holding means, and designating an output size of the selected image; generation means for generating each output image independently for each of the plurality of objects expressing the image selected by the selection means corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output image size between the first and second sizes defined by rendering attributes of each of the plurality of objects held by the holding means compared to the output size of the image selected by the selection means; determination means for determining each rendering position independently of the output images for each of the plurality of objects expressing the image selected by the selection means corresponding to the output position on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the first and second positions defined by rendering attributes of each of the plurality of objects held by the holding means compared to the image selected by the selection means; and rendering means for rendering the output images independently for each of the plurality of objects expressing the image selected by the selection means generated by the generation means at the rendering position determined by the determination means, wherein the rendered output image is frame information of image

information, the frame information including fitting information fitted into a frame of the frame information by a fitting means with the fitting information designated by a designation means for the fitting information.

In contrast, Thomson discloses a method and apparatus for aiding in providing views of multiple network devices in a network management application. The method can include the resizing of an view to allow for presentation of multiple views. The method includes generating an image having certain output magnification according to a relation between two output images.

However, Thomson fails to disclose or suggest generating each output image independently for each of a plurality of objects expressing an image on the basis of a ratio of change in output image size between the first and second sizes defined by rendering attributes of each of said plurality of objects compared to the output size of the image, then determining each rendering position independently of the output images for each of said plurality of objects corresponding to the output position on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the first and second positions defined by rendering attributes of each of said plurality of objects compared to the image, and rendering the output images independently for each of said plurality of objects expressing the image.

In light of the deficiencies of Thomson as discussed above, Applicants submit that amended independent Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

Amended independent Claims 15 and 29 are method and storage medium claims, respectively, corresponding to Claim 1. Applicants submit that the discussion from above in

regard to Claim 1 applies equally to Claim 15 and 29. Therefore, Applicants submit that amended Claims 15 and 29 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

The remaining dependent claims are each dependent from the amended independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, and no other matters being raised in the Office Action, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank L. Cire
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,419

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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